




MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 2 / January 2017

Special edition: Back-to-school

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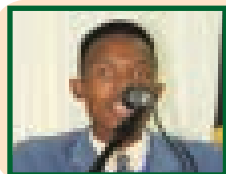
OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Top matric learners honoured

By Mlungisi Dlamini: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

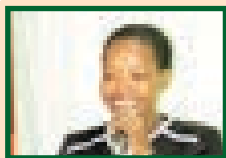
About eight learners who came top in the 2016 matric results were awarded recognition certificates at an award ceremony organised by Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma (NDZ) Local Municipality on 18 January 2017 at Bulwer Hall. Aimed at encouraging learners to excel in their matric results, the initiative was started in 2006 by the then Mayor, Nomagugu Luzulane.

Ntando Juqu, a student at Wits University said she is where she is today because of assistance from government. She is one of the NDZ bursary beneficiaries who has received financial support from the municipality since 2014. She encouraged learners to take advantage of financial support provided by government and also focus on their future and distance themselves from bad habits. Mayor Ngeneleni Mncwabe congratulated all 2016 matriculants for outstanding results and assured learners of continuous financial support to all learners who excel in their results.



Khanyisani Ntshela said:

“Believing in yourself is the most wonderful weapon, the only limit in life is the one that you set for yourself. I would like to thank the NDZ Local Municipality for affording me the opportunity to further my studies.”



Dr Nhlakanipho Gumede said:

“I was raised by my grandmother with her old-age grant. I am grateful for the assistance I received from government. This is my final year as a student and I am planning to come back to NDZ to serve my community.”



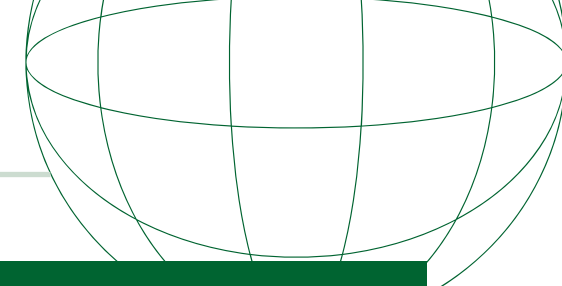
Ntando Juqu said:

“I have benefited from the Cuba Doctor’s Programme. I thank all teachers for their contribution to our success. Today I head medical staff at Pholela CHC.”



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OUTCOME I: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Government takes Operation Phakisa to schools

By Esmarelda Mckay: GCIS, Northern Cape

Operation Phakisa Model was launched by President Jacob Zuma to transform teaching and learning through the appropriate use of information communication technologies (ICT). The objective is to do away with paperwork including handbooks.

Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Buti Manemela and Deputy Minister of Basic Education, Enver Surty visited Upington to monitor the implementation of Operation Phakisa for schools, which is aimed at introducing ICT into the curriculum. They visited Carlton van Heerden High school and Rosendal Primary school.

The Deputy Ministers were very impressed by what they saw. They were even part of the classroom setup where the teacher was giving their lesson using ICT.

Deputy Minister Enver Surty said that they would engage with other sister departments such as Telecommunications and Postal Services to be part of this project as learners respond positively to this type of learning.

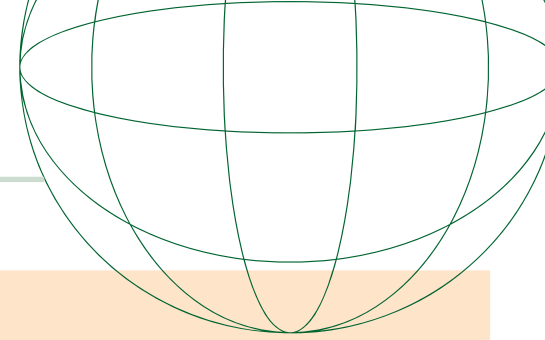
Both Ministers thanked the principals at the schools for their hard work in ensuring that the project becomes a success.



Deputy Minister Enver Surty and Deputy Minister Buti Manemela arriving at the school.



The Deputy Ministers were part of the lesson that was given in class at Carlton Van Heerden High.



Deputy Minister Buti Manamela addressing learners at Rosendal Primary School.



Gordon March said:

“If we all work together especially the principals at the schools, ICT will make a positive impact in other schools.”



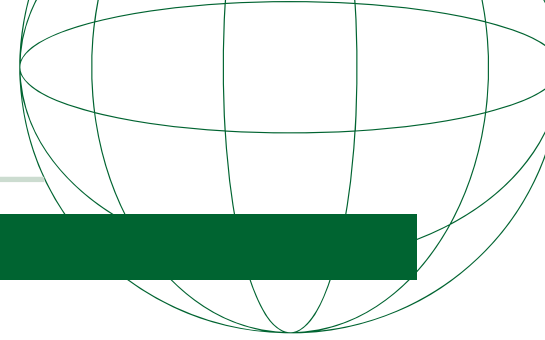
Demitry Mckay said:

“This type of learning is very fun because you see on the screen when you do calculations and you understand better.”



Mr Oliphant said:

“I am very impressed by how the schools are embracing this form of learning.”



Samora Nompunga said:

“I am very happy about this programme. We have met with the Chinese and Iranian ambassadors to build this partnership and I hope this will be the start of a long and fruitful partnership. Education is like a pot that has three legs. If one is broken the other two legs cannot stand on its own. Education also has three legs, consisting of teachers, parents and learners. All should work together to ensure a better education for South Africa.”

OUTCOME 1: IMPROVED QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION

Back-to-school campaign in Gugulethu

By Sikelela Zokufa: GCIS, Western Cape

On 11 January 2017, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation in partnership with Gugulethu Development Forum, handed over school uniform and stationery to learners in Bonga Primary School as part of back-to-school campaign.

The event was attended by the Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Nomaindia Mfeketo, accompanied by diplomats from China, Kang Yong and Iran ambassador, Movahhedi Ghomi. Councilors and community leaders were also there to support the school. The purpose of the programme was to show that government cares about education.

Yong said, “I feel highly honoured to be among you today. We have met with the Gugulethu Development Forum to build partnerships, meaning that this is the start of our support to this community and to the school.” He continued to say that they want to see the learners further their studies in China.

Ghomi also encouraged learners and told them that in Iran, about four million people are diplomates in Iran and that must also happen in South Africa. He stated that children must ensure that they focus on education more than social activities to build a better society and a better world.

Deputy Minister Mfeketo told people who were at the event that the objective of the programme is to build partnership with other organisations in order to get where you cannot reach alone. “We brought our partners from other countries to hand over school uniform, which consist of shoes, shirts and school bags. By doing this, we are not creating a dependent society, but promoting partnership with others,” she said.



Government leaders, stakeholders, parents and learners at the event.